

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-14 IO-14 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /149 W

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R 311421Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3576

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USUN NEW YORK 1043

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 3289

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR

SUBJECT: CYPRUS/GREEK RELATIONS

REFS: NICOSIA 1002 AND ATHENS 3121

1. ALTHOUGH WE APPRECIATE NICOSIA'S CONCERNS SUPPORTING ITS VIEWS THAT USG SHOULD APPROACH GOG ON CYPRUS POLICY, WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE, AS STATED ATHENS 3121, THAT SUCH AN APPROACH AT THIS TIME WOULD NOT ACHIEVE POSITIVE RESULTS AND COULD HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS. IMPORTANCE OF OTHER MATTERS PENDING DIRECTLY BETWEEN USG AND GREECE, NOT TO MENTION TURKISH/GREEK AEGEAN PROBLEM, IN OUR JUDGMENT MAKE IT PRUDENT FOR U.S. TO KEEP LOW PROFILE AND AVOID BECOMING ENGAGED IN WHAT WOULD BE BOUND TO BE VIEWED AS PARTISAN APPROACH BY GOG. MOREOVER, AS PREVIOUSLY INDICATED WE BELIEVE KNOWN GOG ATTITUDES TOWARD MAKARIOS' COURTING OF LEFTISTS WOULD BE REFLECTED IN RESPONSE TO ANY U.S. EFFORT TO INFLUENCE GREEK POSITION ON EOKA-B AND NATIONAL GUARD.

2. CURRENT INTELLIGENCE REPORTS SEEM TO US TO SHOW GOG IS INTERESTED IN KEEPING NATIONAL GUARD ELEMENTS ON RELATIVELY TIGHT REIN AND, FOR EXAMPLE, TO DEAL PROMPTLY AND DECISIVELY WITH
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INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IDENTIFIED IN SUCH AFFAIRS AS YEROSKIPOS

ARSENAL THEFT. MOREOVER, GOG ALREADY HAS FULL PLATTER OF CRITICAL PROBLEMS WITH WHICH IT MUST DEAL. IN OUR JUDGMENT GOG IS NOT SO IMPRUDENT AS TO WANT TO ADD NEW DIMENSIONS AND COMPLICATIONS BY ACTIONS IN CYPRUS THAT COULD ESCALATE DANGEROUSLY.

3. FINALLY, AS WE HAVE REITERATED IN PAST, WE BELIEVE THAT INITIATIVE LIES IN FIRST INSTANCE WITH PARTIES TO LONDON/ZURICH AGREEMENTS AND THAT U.S. SHOULD NOT MOVE INTO POSITION VIS-A-VIS GOG ON CYPRUS THAT WOULD IMPLY OUR DESIRE TO ASSUME CENTRAL ROLE IN ARRIVING AT BALANCE AMONG COMPETING POWER ELEMENTS ON ISLAND. MAKARIOS, AS RECORD SHOWS, KNOWS HOW TO TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF. TASCA

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